

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) Use of cardiotrophin-1 (CT-1), or of a polynucleotide sequence that expresses and codes for CT-1 in the manufacture of a composition that can be used for stimulating hepatic regeneration.
2. (Original) Use of cardiotrophin-1 (CT-1), or of a polynucleotide sequence that expresses and codes for CT-1 in the manufacture of a composition that can be used as a hepatoprotective agent.
3. (Original) Use according to claim 1, in the manufacture of a composition that can be used for stimulating hepatic regeneration after surgical hepatectomy.
4. (Currently Amended) Use according to ~~any one of the claims~~ claim 1 and ~~2~~ in the manufacture of a composition that can be used for the treatment of chronic liver diseases of any etiology.
5. (Currently Amended) Use according to ~~any one of the claims~~ claim 1, 2 and ~~4~~ in the manufacture of a composition that can be used for the treatment of acute, subacute, fulminant or chronic hepatitis of viral, metabolic or toxic etiology.
6. (Currently Amended) Use according to ~~any one of the claims~~ claim 1, 2 and ~~4~~ in the manufacture of a composition that can be used for the treatment of hepatic cirrhoses.
7. (Currently Amended) Use according to ~~any one of the claims~~ claim 1 and ~~2~~ in the manufacture of a composition that can be used for the treatment of the hepatic function of a transplanted liver.

8. (Currently Amended) Use according to ~~any one of the claims~~ claim 1 ~~and 2~~ in the manufacture of a composition that can be used for the treatment of intrahepatic tumors.

9. (Currently Amended) Use according to ~~any one of the claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 8~~ in the manufacture of a composition that includes a viral vector bearing a polynucleotide sequence that expresses and codes for CT-1.

10. (Original) Use according to claim 9 characterized in that the viral vector is an adenovirus.

11. (Original) A method of cultivating hepatocytes, characterized in that CT-1 or a viral vector bearing a polynucleotide sequence that expresses and codes for CT-1 is added to the medium.